

Research, industrial grants help Unimas become recognised name in IT

KUCHING: Research and industrial grants have enabled Universiti Malaysia Sarawak's (Unimas) Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FCSIT) become a recognised institution in the field of ICT research and development (R&D).

According to Unimas vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Kadim Suaidi, faculty members are currently playing key roles in multiple national-level committees, including being panel experts in the National IT Council and specialised taskforce in HR-ICT.

"The FCSIT has received a number of grants,

including two from the European Commission, since its inception. I am also pleased to announce that the team is one of the finalists in the National Innovation Awards 2012," he said at the launch of the 8th International Conference of IT in Asia here yesterday.

Kadim said due to the faculty's commitment in bringing Unimas to greater heights, the varsity was now in a partnership that hosts the largest online journal in the area of computer science.

He said as an initiative to provide a clear direction for potential researches, the faculty

had released the FCSIT R&D Roadmap 2012-2020, seen as a major impetus to R&D efforts.

The roadmap highlights the core research areas of the faculty, including network research, software engineering, knowledge technology, language technology, image technology, knowledge platform, knowledge management technology platform and knowledge management enablers.

Meanwhile, this year's conference is themed "Smart Devices Trend: Technology Future Lifestyle", focusing on mobile technology and

applications, network technology, multimedia processing and applications, computer vision and biometric technology, industrial computer applications, knowledge management and community informatics, as well as software engineering and computational analysis and modelling.

The highlights of the four-day event are keynote addresses by three prominent figures in IT namely Prof Ricardo Baeza-Yates from Yahoo! Labs, Prof Michael Wagner from National Australian University and Dr Patrick Larvie from Google.